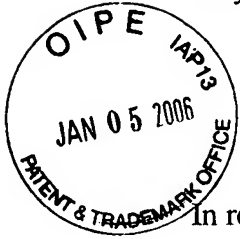


HSW

Atty Dkt 331202.00007

PATENT APPLICATION



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)	
	:	Examiner: Thanh, Loan H
KIERAN P. MURPHY, ET AL.)	
	:	Group Art Unit: 3763
Application No.: 10/602,886)	
	:	
Filed: June 25, 2003)	Confirmation No.: 2271
	:	
For: PERCUTANEOUS SPINAL)	
CATHETER (as amended)	:	January 5, 2006
)	

MAIL STOP: AMENDMENT
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

REQUEST FOR CLARIFICATION OF OBJECTION TO DRAWINGS
AND REQUEST FOR A RESTATED OFFICE ACTION

Sir:

Applicants thank the Examiner for the Office Action mailed on December 30, 2005, and respectfully request that the Examiner identify the specific features within the subject matter of Claims 31-35 that are not shown in the drawings that are currently part of the application.

Below are quotes from MPEP section 608.02(d)

“The drawings are objected to under 37 CFR 1.83(a). The drawings must show every feature of the invention specified in the claims. Therefore, the [1] must be shown or the feature(s) canceled from the claim(s). No new matter should be entered.”

“Examiner Note

In bracket 1, insert the features that must be shown.”

In the December 30, 2005 Office Action, on page 2, it states the following:

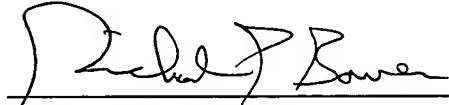
“The drawings are objected to under 37 CFR 1.83(a). The drawings must show every feature of the invention specified in the claims. Therefore, the subject matter of claims 31-35 must be shown or the feature(s) canceled from the claim(s). No new matter should be entered.”

Applicants respectfully suggest that, “...the subject matter of claims 31-35...”, does not identify the features that the Examiner believes to be missing from the drawings.

In any event, Applicants are confused by this objection and request a restated Office Action which identifies the specific features of new claims 31-35 that the Examiner believes are not illustrated in the current drawings. Applicants respectfully request this information so that they may more fully respond to the drawing objection in the Office Action.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 625-3507. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Richard J. Bower", written over a horizontal line.

Attorney for Applicants

Registration No. 31,588

PATENT ADMINISTRATOR
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